



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

May 13, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name of the Chief Executive Officer.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to report back in 30 days on the structure by which it will monitor the implementation progress of the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan. The plan details how eleven County departments and County-affiliated partners will work toward establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal using existing resources to collaborate, form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that will better prepare the youth we serve to become successful and thriving adults. This memo outlines the structure that has been established to ensure the plan's 55 actions are achieved while maintaining a child/youth-centered focus that will help youth achieve success in the four self-sufficiency goal areas of permanency/housing, social/emotional well-being, education, and career/workforce readiness.

An eighteen-member workgroup, consisting of representatives from the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Community and Senior Services (CSS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Probation, Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Community Development Commission (CDC), Commission for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth has been meeting since June 2010 to develop a conceptual framework for ensuring that youth served by DCFS and Probation, ages birth to 24, achieve self-sufficiency. This Self-Sufficiency Workgroup developed a structure to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan in an efficient manner that simultaneously promotes accountability, transparency, and continuity.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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This structure consists of five sub-workgroups to the Self-Sufficiency Workgroup, one in each of its focus areas: Service Integration, Budget, Housing, AB 12, and Accountability. Sub-workgroups will be chaired by a combination of representatives from the CEO, County departmental representatives, community partners, and stakeholders. The following identifies the tasks each sub-workgroup is charged with:

- The Service Integration Sub-Workgroup, chaired by the CEO, will work to implement the Action Plan and make recommendations to integrate services, maximize resources, and reduce duplication of efforts;
- The Budget Sub-Workgroup, co-chaired by representatives from the CEO, DCFS, Probation, and DMH, will analyze funding sources and complement the work of the Service Integration Sub-Workgroup by identifying potential budgetary efficiencies and ensuring that funding supports the core goals of self-sufficiency;
- The Housing Sub-Workgroup, co-chaired by DCFS and CDC, will develop strategies to increase the number of permanent housing options for transition-age youth, coordinate placement management activities, and support the redesign of current departmental housing programs to maximize funding and streamline program administration;
- The AB 12 Sub-Workgroup, co-chaired by DCFS and the Alliance for Children's Rights, will lead local planning efforts to implement the legislated extension of foster care to age 21, while complying with existing funding parameters and collaborating with the Statewide planning process to develop and institute policies and procedures that align with these local efforts. DCFS is currently collaborating with the State to ensure that the County is reimbursed the maximum amount allowable from Federal funds outside of the Title IV-E Waiver Capped Allocation Project; and
- The Accountability Sub-Workgroup, chaired by the CEO, will support the work of all of these sub-workgroups by identifying additional performance indicators and evaluation strategies for monitoring children/youth's achievement of self-sufficiency goals and outcomes.

These sub-workgroups will include key departmental leads, stakeholders, and experts in the respective areas. The Self-Sufficiency Workgroup, which will continue to be chaired by the CEO, will meet bi-monthly to monitor progress and approve recommendations brought forth by the sub-workgroups. The Self-Sufficiency Workgroup will also monitor the progress of DCFS' and Probation's Youth Development Services Redesign

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Implementation process to ensure it continues to align with and be integrated into the self-sufficiency plan.

We believe that this public/private collaborative effort will ensure that the actions approved by your Board in the Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan will be achieved and, as a result, the outcomes of our children and youth will improve. We will be updating your Board on our progress in July 2011, in our first quarterly report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Kathy House, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-4530 or via e-mail at khouse@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:KH
CDM:HC:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Children and Family Services
 Commission for Children and Families
 Community Development Commission
 Community and Senior Services
 Office of Education
 Mental Health
 Office of Child Care
 Parks and Recreation
 Probation
 Public Library
 Public Social Services